

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A method for maintaining a dynamic reference repository comprising a database for storing collective knowledge, comprising the steps of:

discovering pertinent ~~input(s)~~inputs to the dynamic reference repository, the pertinent inputs comprising data from a plurality of information resources containing knowledge accessible to update or add to the collective knowledge stored within the dynamic reference repository;

retrieving the pertinent ~~input(s)~~inputs to the dynamic reference repository to update or add to the collective knowledge stored in the dynamic reference repository;

contextually mapping the pertinent inputs to the dynamic reference repository to a specified capability;-

the discovering, ~~and-retrieving, and mapping~~ performed by an automated software agent configured to communicate with the plurality of information resources and the database for storing collective knowledge; and

managing the pertinent ~~input(s)~~to the dynamic reference repository; and

distributing the pertinent ~~input(s)~~inputs to update the dynamic reference repository.

2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1,

wherein the step of discovering pertinent inputs includes determining the pertinent inputs in a context of the specified capability;

wherein the automated software agent is customizable by a user to define a customizable agent; and

wherein the method ~~further comprising~~ comprises the customizable automated software agent;

searching a plurality of information resources to thereby discover the pertinent inputs to the dynamic reference repository,

cataloging the pertinent ~~input(s)~~inputs to the dynamic reference repository, and maintaining the pertinent inputs to the dynamic reference repository.

3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the pertinent inputs to the dynamic reference repository can include updates made to one or more of the plurality of information resources utilized as a prior existing source of information for the dynamic reference repository~~further comprises the automated software agent maintaining the pertinent input(s) to the dynamic reference repository.~~

4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, ~~wherein the automated software agent is customizable by a user to define a customizable agent, and wherein the customizable agent searches, discovers, and retrieves the pertinent input(s) to the dynamic reference repository~~

wherein the step of discovering pertinent inputs to the dynamic reference repository includes identifying updates made to one or more of the plurality of information resources utilized as a prior existing source of information for the dynamic reference repository;

wherein the step of distributing the pertinent inputs includes updating the database within the dynamic reference repository; and

wherein the method further comprises providing notice of the identified updates made to the existing sources of information, to users of the dynamic reference repository.

5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 24,

wherein the customizable agent searches, discovers, and retrieves the pertinent ~~input(s)~~inputs from Internet or intranet resources;

wherein the customizable agent searches, discovers, and retrieves the pertinent inputs from subject matter experts (SMEs); and

wherein the customizable agent further comprises utilities to conduct SME reviews, assessments or interviews.

6. (Canceled).

7. (Canceled).

8. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1,

wherein pertinent ~~input(s)~~inputs are contained in, and retrieved by the automated software agent from communications addressed to the dynamic reference repository for storage within the dynamic reference repository; and

wherein the communications addressed to the dynamic reference repository are e-mails addressed to the dynamic reference repository.

9. (Canceled).

10. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~2~~1,

wherein the customizable agent searches are developed using a graphical user interface (GUI) that interfaces with the dynamic reference repository; and

wherein the GUI allows a user to develop, customize, and manage the customizable agent searches.

11. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~10~~1, ~~wherein the GUI allows a user to perform one or more of the following: develop, customize, or manage the customizable agent searches.~~

wherein the step of discovering pertinent inputs includes identifying the pertinent inputs from within the plurality of information resources to thereby populate and update the database within the dynamic reference repository; and

wherein the step of retrieving pertinent inputs includes culling a set of knowledge resources and producing refined and contextual results to populate the database within the dynamic reference repository, to thereby facilitate shared knowledge.

12. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of discovering the pertinent ~~input(s)~~inputs further comprises one or more of the following: running periodic ~~or~~ prioritized customizable agent searches of reference materials(s).

13. (Currently amended) The method of claim 12,

wherein the customizable agent searches are neutral to ~~data-type~~ document format;

wherein the pertinent inputs further comprise documents from plurality of sources and in a plurality of document formats;

wherein the plurality of document formats comprise electronic forms that further comprise MS Office, web document, and e-mail document compatible forms; and

wherein the customizable agent integrates the documents having a plurality of document formats into a common standard format used within an enterprise architecture system.

14. (Canceled).

15. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising: ~~wherein the dynamic reference repository comprises at least one database.~~

tagging a term and contextually relating the term with its associated information source to allow the term to be differentiated and properly used to thereby maintain integrity of an assigned meaning of the term; and

redefining contextually one or more terms and definitions underlying the database responsive to at least one of the discovered pertinent inputs.

16. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein discovering the pertinent ~~input(s)~~inputs further comprises automated time stamping of the discovered pertinent ~~input(s)~~inputs with current time prior to dissemination of notice thereof to users of the database.

17. (Currently amended) A dynamic reference repository system for maintaining a dynamic reference repository, the system comprising:

at least one database;

at least one information resource ~~operable~~operably coupled to the dynamic reference repository; and

a processing module operably ~~operable~~ coupled to the at least one database and operable to execute a set of instructions to:

identify pertinent ~~input(s)~~inputs to the dynamic reference repository within the at least one information resource, the pertinent inputs comprising data from at least one information resource containing knowledge accessible to update or add to collective knowledge stored within the dynamic reference repository;

retrieve the pertinent ~~input(s)~~inputs to the dynamic reference repository from the at least one information resource to update or add to the collective knowledge stored in the dynamic reference repository;

manage the pertinent ~~input(s)~~inputs to the dynamic reference repository; and

distribute the pertinent ~~input(s)~~inputs to update the dynamic reference repository.

18. (Currently amended) The dynamic reference repository system of claim 17,

wherein the instructions to identify pertinent inputs to the dynamic reference repository includes those to determine the pertinent inputs in a context of a specified capability;

wherein the processing module is further operable to:

catalog the pertinent ~~input(s)~~inputs to the dynamic reference repository,

contextually map the pertinent inputs to the dynamic reference repository to the specified capability, and

maintain the pertinent ~~input(s)~~inputs to the dynamic reference repository; and

wherein the system further comprises at least one customizable agent configured to search and retrieve the pertinent ~~input(s)~~inputs to the dynamic reference repository from the at least one information resource and to contextually map the pertinent inputs to the dynamic reference repository to the specified capability.

19. (Currently amended) The dynamic reference repository of claim 17, ~~wherein the processing module is further operable to maintain the pertinent input(s) to the dynamic reference repository~~ wherein the pertinent inputs to the dynamic reference repository can include updates made to the at least one information resource utilized by the processing module as a prior existing source of information for the dynamic reference repository.

20. (Currently amended) The dynamic reference repository of claim 17, ~~wherein customizable agent(s) search and retrieve the pertinent input(s) to the dynamic reference repository from the at least one resource.~~

wherein the instructions to identify pertinent inputs to the dynamic reference repository include those to identify updates made to the at least one information resource utilized by the processing module as a prior existing source of information for the dynamic reference repository;

wherein the instructions to identify pertinent inputs to the dynamic reference repository include those to update the database within the dynamic reference repository; and

wherein the processing module is further operable to provide notice of the identified updates made to the existing sources of information, to users of the dynamic reference repository.

21. (Currently amended) The dynamic reference repository system of claim ~~20~~18, wherein the at least one information resource comprises at least one of the following: Internet, intranet, or subject matter experts (SMEs) resources.

22. (Currently amended) The dynamic reference repository system of claim ~~20~~17, further comprising:

at least one customizable agent configured to search and retrieve the pertinent input(s)inputs to the dynamic reference repository from the at least one information resource;

and

wherein a user interface allows users to manage the customizable agent(s)

an interface configured to provide a single common user entry point into the at least one database for a plurality of physically spaced apart users connected through a corresponding

plurality of different networks, and configured to allow each of the plurality of users to create, edit, and manage the at least one customizable agents to create, populate, and maintain contextual information extracted from the at least one information resource to thereby provide shared knowledge throughout an enterprise.

23. (Currently amended) The dynamic reference repository system of claim ~~20~~22,  
wherein the at least one customizable agent ~~searches further comprise~~ comprises utilities to conduct SME reviews, assessments or interviews; and  
wherein the interface to the at least one database is configured to receive pertinent inputs contained within communications addressed to the dynamic reference repository, and to retrieve the received pertinent inputs to the dynamic reference repository for storage therein.

24. (Canceled).

25. (Currently amended) The dynamic reference repository system of claim ~~24~~23, wherein the communications addressed to the dynamic reference repository are e-mails addressed to the dynamic reference repository.

26. (Currently amended) The dynamic reference repository system of claim 24, ~~wherein the interface allows a user to perform at least one of the following: develop, customize, or manage the customizable agent(s).~~ wherein the at least one customizable agent comprises utilities to recognize a global change in a name of a data item in the at least one information resource to retrieve pertinent articles, knowledge, or pieces of information containing the data item referred to by a different name in the at least one information resource.

27. (Currently amended) The dynamic reference repository system of claim ~~20~~22,  
wherein the at least one customizable ~~agent(s)~~ agent is neutral to ~~data document~~ format;  
wherein the pertinent inputs further comprise documents from plurality of sources and in a plurality of document formats;

wherein the plurality of document formats comprises electronic forms that further comprise MS Office, web document, and e-mail document compatible forms; and

wherein the at least one customizable agent is configured to integrate the documents having the plurality of document formats into a common standard format used within an enterprise architecture system.

28. (Canceled).

29. (Currently amended) The dynamic reference repository system of claim 17, wherein the processing module is further operable to discover the pertinent ~~input(s)~~inputs by executing at ~~least one of a periodic or prioritized searches~~search of reference material(s) within the at least one information resource.

30. (Currently amended) The dynamic reference repository system of claim 17, wherein the processing module is further operable to time stamp the pertinent ~~input(s)~~inputs with current time prior to dissemination of notice to users of the at least one database.

31. (Currently amended) A method for populating a dynamic reference repository, comprising:  
discovering pertinent ~~input(s)~~inputs to the dynamic reference repository, the pertinent inputs comprising data from a plurality of information resources containing knowledge accessible to update or add to the collective knowledge stored within the dynamic reference repository;

retrieving the pertinent ~~input(s)~~inputs to the dynamic reference repository, wherein automated customizable software agent(s) search for, discover, and retrieve the pertinent ~~input(s)~~inputs to the dynamic reference repository from Internet or intranet accessible resources;

managing the pertinent ~~input(s)~~inputs to the dynamic reference repository to update or add to the collective knowledge stored in the dynamic reference repository;

cataloging the pertinent ~~input(s)~~inputs to the dynamic reference repository; and

distributing the pertinent ~~input(s)~~inputs to populate the dynamic reference repository;



the discovering, retrieving, managing, cataloging, and distributing performed by a customizable software agent configured to communicate with the plurality of information resources and the stored knowledge in the dynamic reference repository.

32. (Currently amended) The method of claim 31, wherein the customizable software agent~~agent(s)~~ further ~~search~~ searches for, ~~discover~~ discovers, and ~~retrieve~~ retrieves the pertinent ~~input(s)inputs~~ from subject matter experts (SMEs), and wherein the customizable ~~agent(s)~~ software agent further comprise utilities to conduct SME reviews, assessments or interviews.

33. (Currently amended) The method of claim 31, wherein pertinent ~~input(s)inputs~~ are contained in, and retrieved by the customizable software agent from electronic communications addressed to the dynamic reference repository.

34. (Currently amended) An enterprise architecture including a dynamic reference repository system having a dynamic reference repository, that comprises:

at least one database;

at least one information resource ~~operable~~operably coupled to the dynamic reference repository; and

a processing module operably ~~operable~~ coupled to the at least one database and operable to execute a set of instructions to:

identify pertinent ~~input(s)inputs~~ to the dynamic reference repository within the at least one information resource, the pertinent inputs comprising data from at least one information resource containing knowledge accessible to update or add to collective knowledge stored within the dynamic reference repository;

retrieve the pertinent ~~input(s)inputs~~ to the dynamic reference repository from the at least one information resource to update or add to the collective knowledge stored in the dynamic reference repository;

manage the pertinent ~~input(s)inputs~~ to the dynamic reference repository; and

distribute the pertinent ~~input(s)inputs~~ to update the dynamic reference repository.

35. (Withdrawn-currently amended) A method to populate a dynamic reference repository to support a project, comprising:

- identifying capabilities to be associated with the project;
- identifying requirements based on the capabilities associated with the project;
- identifying technologies based on the capabilities associated with the project;
- refining the requirements, technologies and capabilities based on subject matter expert input;
- searching for and retrieving pertinent ~~input(s)~~inputs to the dynamic reference repository based on the requirements, technologies, subject matter expert input, and capabilities; and
- distributing the pertinent ~~input(s)~~inputs to populate the dynamic reference repository.

36. (New) The method of claim 1,

wherein the step of discovering pertinent inputs includes identifying updates made to existing sources of information for the dynamic reference repository;

wherein the step of distributing the pertinent inputs includes updating the database within the dynamic reference repository; and

wherein the method further comprises the step of disseminating a plurality of user tailored notices of the identified updates to a corresponding plurality of users of the dynamic reference repository, each user tailored notice individually tailored for each separate one of the plurality of users responsive to a list of keywords or key subjects of interest to the user, provided by the respective user.

37. (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

dynamically updating a search for a user searching the dynamic reference repository responsive to search habits of the user to optimize search results for the user; and

updating a next search responsive to user input rejecting gathered information gathered during a first search to optimize search results for the user.

38. (New) The dynamic reference repository system of claim 17, wherein the processing module is further operable to:

tag a term and contextually relate the term with its associated information source to allow the term to be differentiated and properly used to thereby maintain integrity of an assigned meaning of the term; and

redefine contextually one or more terms and definitions underlying the at least one database responsive to one or more identified pertinent inputs.

39. (New) The dynamic reference repository system of claim 17,

wherein identifying pertinent inputs includes identifying updates made to existing sources of information for the dynamic reference repository;

wherein distributing the pertinent inputs includes updating the at least one database within the dynamic reference repository; and

wherein the processing module is further operable to disseminate a plurality of user tailored notices of the identified updates to a corresponding plurality of users of the dynamic reference repository, each user tailored notice individually tailored for each separate one of the plurality of users responsive to a list of keywords or key subjects of interest to the user, provided by the respective user.

40. (New) The dynamic reference repository system of claim 17, wherein the processing module is further operable to:

dynamically update a search for a user searching the dynamic reference repository responsive to search habits of the user to optimize search results for the user; and

update a next search responsive to user input rejecting gathered information gathered during a first search to optimize search results for the user.

41. (New) The method of claim 31,  
    wherein the step of discovering pertinent inputs includes determining the pertinent inputs in a context of a specified capability; and  
    wherein the method further comprises contextually mapping the pertinent inputs to the dynamic reference repository to the specified capability.
42. (New) The enterprise architecture as defined in claim 34, wherein the processing module is further operable to recognize a global change in a name of a data item in the at least one information resource to retrieve pertinent articles, knowledge, or pieces of information containing the data item referred to by a different name in the at least one information resource.